[1st April 1953

Memorandum from the Malabar Trade Union Council.

* 263 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any memorandum, dated 4th February 1953, from the Malabar Trade Union Council to make necessary changes in the rules issued under the Industrial Disputes Act by allowing joint petition by the workers before the Industrial Tribunal or Appellate Tribunal if the management contravenes section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken thereon?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" While allowing joint petition by the workers before the Industrial Tribunal or Appellate Tribunal, will the Government be pleased to see that the workers are allowed not to affix any Court-fee stamp on the petition, as is allowed to the capitalists? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The matter will be examined."

Visit of Admiral Wright to Madras.

* 263-A. Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether Admiral Wright was treated as a State Guest during his visit to Madras?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"No, Sir, he lived in his own flagship and there was no need to treat him as a State Guest."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Did the Admiral visit our City at the request either of the Madras Government or of the Government of India? Or, did he impose himself on our City? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The alternatives do not exhaust the situation. He visited our City because he had a right to visit such places. It is an international right. There was no invitation and there is no imposition whatsoever."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" I am surprised at the answer that people like Admirals have a right to visit our cities. May I know whether it is the natural right or the right that an American Admiral gets? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" All international ships have that right."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister whether it is wrong to treat such important visitors to our State as our State Guests? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" No, Sir. It is not wrong. I said that there was no necessity because he had his own ship."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" May I know whether the Hon. the Chief Minister paid a visit to this flagship and, if so, what matters were talked about then? " (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" It has nothing to do with the main question. Next question No. 263-B."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I need not answer the question, but if it is left like that, it is likely to be misunderstood. The Admiral paid a call on the Chief Minister of Madras as he felt he was, in courtesy, bound to do so, and I visited the ship out of my own curiosity and as a return for the courtesy."

SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" On a point of order, Sir, when the Speaker has disallowed a question, how can the Chief Minister or anybody give an explanation? " 3-30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have not disallowed the question. What I said was it did not arise out of the main question. The hon. Member knows that the other day a point of order was raised on this point whether a Minister could refuse to answer a question on the plea that it was not in public interest to answer the question. In that connection, I must tell the House that a Minister can also answer a question in public interest. Suppose a Member gives notice of a question and later on when it comes up for answer in the Assembly he says that he is not putting the question. Even then, a Minister can answer it in public interest if he thinks it necessary to do so."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" There is necessity for further explanation, Sir. If a Minister refuses to answer a question in public interest, have not the Members got a right to ask further questions in public interest to see that proper answers are given? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" May I add to the discussion? In this particular case, a certain demand was made to declare what was talked about and I wanted to make it clear that it was all a courtesy visit and that there was nothing to be kept back from the House. Therefore, I answered the question. As regards the rights about public interest and rights arising out of public interest, I think the Government are entitled to speak about public interest, and the Opposition is entitled to ask questions for information."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" On another point of order, Sir, (laughter) we are already in the next question. How can the Chief Minister make a statement now? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The very fact I allowed the Chief Minister to answer means that he can answer."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Even the Speaker has some rights! " (Laughter.)

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" My point is this. We have passed on to the next question. Now the Chief Minister gets up and makes a statement. I would like to know for information whether it is right so that we may conduct our business in the proper manner. Has he a right of replying after the question is over? If he wants, let him make a statement at the appropriate time."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The very fact the Speaker allowed the Chief Minister to answer means that he feels that the Chief Minister has a right to answer."

Report of the Government to the Gadgil Committee.

* 263-B Q.—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the report submitted by the Government to Gadgil Committee?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The Madras Government did not submit any report to Gadgil's Committee. They furnished only certain factual information required by the Committee such as strength of staff up to various pay limits, rates of dearness allowance and house rent allowance, total expenditure on pay and dearness allowance, etc."

SRI G. RAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government consider it necessary to implement the recommendations of the Gadgil Committee? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That does not arise now."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Are the Government of Madras aware of the recommendations of the Gadgil Committee and the decisions of the Government of India thereon? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have read a report in the newspapers."

Relief measures in Kadiri and Penukonda taluks.

* 263-C Q.—SRI K. V. VEMA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether severe drought conditions in the famine-affected areas of Kadiri, Penukonda and Dharmavaram taluks in Anantapur district were brought to the notice of the Government by the District authorities and the public of Anantapur district in the months of January and February 1953; and

(*b*) if so, what action was taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) A representation was received from Sri T. Lakshminarayana Reddy, M.L.A., regarding the prevalence of acute distress in Kadiri and Penukonda taluks. No such representation in